

SENATE BILL 1853
By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, relative to pharmacy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-117, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) No group medical benefit contract issued by an insurance company, a hospital service corporation, a hospital and medical service corporation, a medical service corporation, a health maintenance organization, the state or its political subdivisions, or a health care center, which provides coverage for prescription drugs, may require any person covered under such contract to obtain prescription drugs from a mail-order pharmacy in order to obtain benefits for such drugs, or to pay any additional fee or be subjected to any other penalty for failing to utilize any mail-order pharmacy designated by the insurance company or other issuing organization.

(b) For purposes of this section, a "group medical benefit contract" shall include all health benefit plans or arrangements offered by the state or its political subdivisions.

(c) The commissioner is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement and enforce the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.